

UTILITY PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/716,912 Confirmation No. 6412  
Applicant : Robert J. Atmur et al.  
Filed : November 18, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 3745  
Examiner : Wiehe, Nathaniel Edward  
Docket No. : 024.0020  
Customer No. : 55,397

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300.

on DEC. 13, 2005 Signature:   
Mark M. Takahashi

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.